

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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TAGS: PGOV, PINT, WB, GW, GE, UR

SUBJECT: CDU/CSU BUNDESTAG FRAKTION MEETING IN BERLIN

1. IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CDU/CSU BUNDESTAG FRAKTION MEETING IN BERLIN SEPTEMBER 10-12, FRANZ-JOSEPH STRAUSS, BUNDESTAG FRAKTION LEADER CARSTENS, WALTER LEISLER KIEP AND FORMER CHANCELLOR ERHARD, AMONG OTHERS, ADDRESSED AUDIENCES THROUGHOUT WEST BERLIN.

2. STRAUSS IN SPEECH BEFORE 1,500 PERSONS SEPTEMBER 11 ATTACHED BRANDT GOVERNMENT, ESPECIALLY ACTIVITIES OF RADICAL LEFT. ONE MUST TALK OF TWO SEPARATE PARTIES, HE SAID, WHEN ONE MENTIONS SPD AND YOUNG SOCIALISTS. STRAUSS ALSO CALLED FOR OTHER BUNDESTAG FRAKTIONS TO MEET IN BERLIN, AND SAID VACUUM MUST NOT BE PERMITTED IN LINKS BETWEEN BUND AND BERLIN WHICH COULD PROVIDE "OTHER SIDE" OPPORTUNITIES.

3. SPEAKING BEFORE 300 PARTY-FAITHFUL, FRANKTION LEADER CARTSTENS ACCUSED BRANDT GOVERNMENT OF NEGLIGENCE IN LOOKING AFTER BERLIN'S VITAL INTERESTS. IN THE COURSE OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH GDR AND SENAT, BONN FAILED TO OBTAIN CLEARCUT SETTLEMENT ("REGELUNG") FOR BERLIN,
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CARSTENS STATED. IT WAS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT THAT

WEST OBTAIN ALL POSSIBLE BENEFITS FROM QA BECAUSE THROUGH QA SOVIETS GAINED VOICE IN AFFAIRS OF WEST BERLIN THEY DID NOT HAVE BEFORE. BONN MUST INSURE THAT BERLIN IS INCLUDED IN ALL AGREEMENTS AND MUST MAKE FRG-BERLIN LINKS AS STRONG AS POSSIBLE, HE SAID. CARSTENS ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT CDU/CSU BUNDESTAG FRAKTION WOULD MEET IN BERLIN TWICE A YEAR. IN HIS SPEECH SEPTEMBER 12 CONCLUDING FRAKTION MEETING PROPER, CARSTENS STRESSED NEED FOR MOVING QUICKLY TOWARD EUROPEAN UNITY. HE SAID SUCH UNITY WAS NECESSARY BECAUSE TROOP REDUCTIONS AND OTHER DISARMAMENT MEASURES COULD CREATE SITUATION WHEREBY FRG WAS PART OF SEMI-DEMILITARIZED ZONE IN CENTRAL EUROPE AND UK AND FRANCE WERE NOT. SUCH A SITUATION COULD POSE DANGER FOR WEST EUROPEAN INTEGRATION PROCESS.

4. IN ADDRESSING ANOTHER GROUP KIEP ALSO CALLED FOR STRENGTHENING OF ATLANTIC ALLIANCE AND INCREASING PACE OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION AS NECESSARY PRECONDITIONS FOR CARRYING OUT REALISTIC OSTPOLITIK. ERHARD, BEFORE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, DISCUSSED INTERNATIONAL MONETARY SITUATION AND STRESSED NEED FOR STRONG DOLLAR AS BASIS OF WORLD TRADE.

5. IN COURSE OF THREE-HOUR PRESS BACKGROUNDER ATTENDED BY PAO, CDU SEC GEN KURT BIENDENKOPF SAID HE DID NOT INTEND TO BE MERELY "ADMINISTRATOR" OF CDU BUT WOULD PLAY MAJOR ROLE IN PLANNING PARTY'S POLICY AND STRATEGY. ACKNOWLEDGING THAT HE HAD NOT THOUGHT THROUGH SPECIFICS, BIENDENKOPF SAID CDU WOULD WORK OUT ITS OWN CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACH TO OSTPOLITIK. BIENDENKOPF ALSO CALLED FOR LOCATING ADDITIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN WEST BERLIN (RELYING ON FEDERAL SUBSIDIES, IF NECESSARY) THAT WOULD REQUIRE INTENSIVE APPLICATION OF BRAIN-POWER. IN REGARD TO ECONOMIC ISSUES BIENDENKOPF CAUTIONED AGAINST OVER-CONCENTRATION OF INDUSTRIES AND EROSION OF DECISION-MAKING POWERS THROUGH TOO RADICAL APPLICATION OF CO-DETERMINATION.

6. ONLY LEFT-WING ATTEMPT TO EMBARRASS FRAKTION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LEADERSHIP OCCURRED WHEN ABOUT 150 MAOISTS (KPD) WHO TRIED TO BREAK UP FRAZ-JOSEPH STRAUSS' SPEECH HAD TO BE REMOVED AFTER 20 MINUTES BY POLICE USING NIGHT-STICKS.

7. COMMENT: CDU/CSU LEADERS TOOK FULL ADVANTAGE OF VISIT TO BOOST PARTY SPIRITS AND TO REMIND BERLIN VOTERS OF CDU/CDU CONCERN FOR FUTURE OF CITY. IN

ATTACKING BRANDT POLICIES THEY WERE CAREFUL TO AVOID
APPEARANCE OF BEING AGAINST MORE POPULAR ASPECTS OF
OSTPOLITICK IN BERLIN, E.G., SMOOTH OPERATION OF TRANSIT
AND VISIT AGREEMENTS. MISSION HAS BEEN INFORMED BY
SENAT THAT FDP AND SPD BUDESTAG FRAKTIONS WILL MEET
IN BERLIN IN OCTOBER.KLEIN

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